



FAMILY HANDBOOK

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Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Spring of Life Christian Academy! It is our sincere joy and great desire that the Kingdom of God be advanced through this ministry by following the mandate given to us to bring up children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Together, with God's guidance, we can prepare the next generation of students who will be equipped for life: spiritually, academically, socially, and physically.

Through enrolling your student, Spring of Life Christian Academy (SOLCA) will become a part of your daily life. Please know that we are committed to assisting you in Bible-based education. Our hope for your family is to celebrate the abundant spiritual impact that SOLCA will have upon your child, the strong pattern of learning that will develop in basic academic subjects, and most importantly, honoring God in every part of life and learning.

The SOLCA handbook is designed to assist you throughout your time enrolled. Please keep this handbook in an easily accessible place in your home for your reference.

In the meantime, we congratulate you on beginning this marvelous journey with your child and encourage you to be active participants in your child's education at SOLCA.

~ SOLCA Administration



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I. GOVERNING POLICIES

School Board

Spring of Life Christian Academy is operated by the School Board who oversees its financial and management operations.

Mission Statement

SOLCA is partnering with Spring of Life Church families to provide students with a strong foundation in Bible knowledge, to instill Evangelical Christian values and principles, to cultivate moral character, to deliver quality education, and to encourage a life of service to God and others.

Purpose Statement

The purpose of SOLCA is to provide educational services, namely, providing kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) classroom instruction.

Reason for Existence

- The Bible delegates the responsibility for training young people to two agencies: The family and the Church.
- The Bible commands us to obey God (Matt.22:37-40, John 14:23) and the authorities (Romans 13:1-7).
- The government requires all children to attend an organized education program.

Therefore, the role of SOLCA is to assist the family in their responsibilities of raising godly children while satisfying government requirements for education as long as these requirements do not conflict with God's commands.

Responsibilities

Family:

- Teach God's Word (Deuteronomy 6:6-9).
- Train up a child (Proverbs 22:6).

Church (Body of Christ):

- Prepare God's people for works of service to build up the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-14).

School:

- To assist parents in teaching God's Word to children and in training them in godly living.
- To assist the church (local school home-place) in training and maturing of Christian young people for a fruitful life of service to God and man.
- To fulfill state requirements for an organized educational program as long as this does not conflict with the above.

Educational Process

- To instill the Evangelical Christian mindset into young people based on the principles in Romans 12:1-2:
- Dedication of themselves to God (Belief and commitment).
- Not being conformed to the world (i.e., Humanism, the exaltation of man and gratification of self).
- Being transformed by the renewing of their minds (to be Christ-like in all that they think and do).

Academic Endeavors

- To promote high academic standards within the potential of the individual as uniquely created by God and to help the student realize his/her full academic potential.
- To help each student gain a thorough comprehension and command of the fundamental processes used in communicating and dealing with others such as reading, writing, speaking, listening, and mathematics.

- To teach and encourage the use of good study habits.
- To teach the student how to conduct independent research and to reason logically.
- To motivate the student to pursue independent study in areas of personal interest.
- To develop creative and critical thinking and the proper use of Biblical criteria for evaluation.
- To promote good citizenship through developing the understanding and appreciation of our Christian and American heritage of responsible freedom, human dignity, and acceptance of authority.
- To discuss current affairs in all fields and relate them to God's will for man.
- To produce an understanding and appreciation for God's world, and awareness of man's role in his environment and his God-given responsibilities to use and preserve them properly.
- To develop a practical reason for learning the content of Mathematics, English, History, Science, Physical Education, etc., and to allow the student to see a purpose in his/her education and how it can be used.

SOLCA Standards

SOLCA is a member of Enlighthouse School System Agency, is a faith-based organization, and so meets the specific needs of faith-based schools. SOLCA does not endorse or follow the Common Core Standards Initiative (CCSI).

Spiritual Goals

- To provide Biblical training that will teach the statement of Evangelical Christian beliefs and principles.
- To provide a strong academic program that satisfies state academic requirements and prepares young people to live successfully in this world. This will be based on Evangelical,

biblical, and educational philosophy. Students will be given a strong background in the basics of Reading, Language, Mathematics, Science, and History.

- To provide godly Christian teachers who will be role models for the students they teach. To develop in the child Christ-likeness in the following areas as an outgrowth of the development of the Christian mindset (consistent life view with Christ preeminent):
 - Spiritually - teach the basics of successful Christian living based on faith in Jesus Christ, knowledge of God's Word, development of godly character traits, and maturing in the Christian walk (II Thess.3:3; Rom. 8:1-14).
 - Mentally - develop a Christian way of thinking that places Christ preeminent in all of life, stressing that all of life is spiritual (Philip. 2:5).
 - Physically - our body is the vehicle given to us by God in which we live our lives to bring glory to God. Therefore, we need to learn to care for and develop it so that we may serve God to the fullest (II Cor. 6:16-18).
 - Socially - to learn to develop biblical human relationships in which we serve people, not take advantage of them (Matt. 20:25-28).
 - Emotionally - develop a stable personality that is based on one's self-worth in God's sight and that emphasizes self-control and the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:19-25).

Holidays

We observe the following federal holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr Day., President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. We do not observe or participate in Halloween and Valentine's Day.



II. Doctrine Summary

- We believe that the ultimate guide to faith and life is the Bible, which is inspired, infallible, and inerrant (2 Tim. 3:16–17; 2 Pet. 1:21).
- We believe in one triune God who exists as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and we believe that all three persons of the Trinity are equal, eternal, and essential (Deut. 6:4; Is. 42:8, Matt. 28:19).
- We believe that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man, was born of the virgin Mary, lived a perfect life on our behalf, was crucified as payment for the sins of the world, and was resurrected (Jn. 1:1,14; Matt. 1:23; 1 Cor. 15:3–4,20).
- We believe that Jesus Christ is alive today and is seated at the Father's right hand, where He intercedes for all believers (Rom. 8:34; 1 Jn. 2:1).
- We believe the Holy Spirit has come to convict the world of its sin and to teach, guide, and empower believers for His service (Jn. 16:8–13; Jn. 14:26; 1 Cor. 2:4,12; Eph. 3:16).
- We believe that God created mankind in His own image, but that every person is born a sinner and has sinned against God (Gen. 1:26–27; Rom. 3:9–20; Eph. 2:1–3).
- We believe that only those who have been born again in Jesus Christ are forgiven of their sin and rescued to dwell eternally with God (Jn. 3:1–8; Rom. 3:23–26; Eph. 1:7–9, Eph. 2:4–8; 1 Pet. 1:23).
- We believe that those who receive Christ in faith are born of the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies them, and live as obedient children of God; we believe that this gift is available to everyone (Jn. 3:3–5; Eph. 1:13–14; Gal. 3:2, 14; 2 Thess. 2:13; Acts 2:38–39).
- We believe that the power of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for every Christian to grow in obedience to the Word of God

and in spiritual maturity, and we believe that this growth is both a privilege and a responsibility (Ezk. 36:25–27; Titus 3:5–7; 1 Thess. 4:7–8; Gal. 5:22–25).

- We believe that God created humanity as male and female image bearers, each gender ordained by God’s will and objectively expressed of the whole person, spiritually and physically, from conception according to God’s unchangeable plan for each unique human life, and each gender given distinct qualitative endowments uniting them in wise and fruitful rule over the earth, with equal dignity and value (Gen. 1:26–28; Ps. 139:13; Jer. 1:5; Mk. 10:5–9; Matt. 19:4–6).
- We believe that the term “marriage” means a covenant sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive, and sacred union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen. 1:27–28; Gen. 2:18, Gen. 2:21–25; Matt. 19:4–6; Mk. 10:5–9).
- We believe in the sanctity, dignity, and irrevocable value of each human life from the moment of its conception, and the innate and sacred responsibility of humanity to guard and nourish each human life as a fellow unique human being created in the image of the living God (Gen. 1:26–28, Ps. 139:13, Jer. 1:5., Gen. 5:1–3, 1 Tim. 2:15, Deut. 4:40, 30:6, 19–20, Eph. 6:1–4).
- We believe that the church is a chosen people made up of all believers, with Jesus Christ as its head, and that water baptism and communion are to be observed in the church today (1 Pet. 2:9–10; Gal. 3:28; Col. 1:18; Matt. 28:19; 1 Cor. 11:23–26).
- We believe in the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:20–23; Jn. 20:24–29; Acts 1:1).
- We believe that Jesus Christ will come again to judge the wicked, reward the righteous in Christ, and establish His reign on earth forever (1 Cor. 4:5; Heb. 9:27–28; Rev. 20:11–15; Rev. 21:1–8).

Statement on Marriage and Sexuality

- We believe that the term “marriage” means a covenant sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive, and sacred union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen. 1:27–28; Gen. 2:18,21–25; Matt. 19:4–6; Mk. 10:5–9).
- We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman (Gen. 1:27–28, 2:24–25, 4:1; Eph. 5:31).
- We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, or any attempt to change one’s gender, or disagreement with one’s biological gender, is sinful and offensive to God (Gen. 1:26–27; Rom. 1:18,24–27; 1 Cor. 6:18; Jude 1:7; Matt. 5:27–28).
- We believe that God created humanity as male and female image bearers, each gender ordained by God’s will and expressed from conception according to God’s unchangeable plan for each unique human life (Ps. 139:13; Jer. 1:5), each gender given distinct qualitative endowments uniting them in wise and fruitful rule over the earth, with equal dignity and value (Gen. 1:26–28).
- We believe in the sanctity, dignity, and irrevocable value of each human life from the moment of its conception, and the innate and sacred responsibility of humanity to guard and nourish each human life as a fellow unique human being created in the image of the living God (Gen. 1:26–28, Ps. 139:13, Jer. 1:5., Gen. 5:1–3, 1 Tim. 2:15, Deut. 4:40, 30:6, 19–20, Eph. 6:1–4).

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.



III. ADMISSION AND WITHDRAWAL

General Admission

Priority enrollment will be given to children from families who are active members of Spring of Life Church. The primary basis for admission to the program is a parental commitment to accept their biblical mandate to train their children. Exceptions can be made to the general admission policy, only under the consideration and approval of the School Board. Also, the following policy considerations will be applied when evaluating each family for admission of their child(ren):

- At least one parent must subscribe to the Statement of Faith.
- Parents must view Christian education as a religious conviction.
- At least one parent must be present at Open House, school required events, and parent-teacher conferences.

The school policies apply equally to all families

- Each student must be in good standing from the previous school attended (i.e., passing grades academically and a good behavior record). A student with poor academic performance or behavior problems will be placed on probation for one quarter. If results are improved, the student will be taken off probation and be officially enrolled at the school.
- Minimum Age: K4 children must be four years of age by midnight, August 31st. K5 children must be five years of age by midnight, August 31st, as stated in WAC 180-39-010. A child entering first grade must be six years of age as of

midnight, August 31st, of that year, as stated in WAC 180-39-015.

- Kindergarten Readiness Screening: Each student who applies for enrollment will be administered the Readiness Screening evaluation, which helps determine school readiness. Recommendations for acceptance will be made from the results of the screening.
- A record of these fulfilled requirements must be on file in the school office before any child is allowed to enter school. Secondary students, grades 6-8, must verbally commit to their willingness to attend SOLCA, and must openly attest to their willingness to abide by all the procedures and rules of the school.
- Students with learning disabilities will be evaluated carefully, considering the type of disability, severity of the disability and the capacity to accommodate that disability.
- SOLCA's mission involves working with the parents in the Christian education of students. Therefore we expect parents to be partners in nurturing their children, and to agree to the following statement. *"As a parent, I agree to support the school with my prayers and with a positive attitude. Complaints or negative comments will be shared ONLY with the teacher, the principal, or the person involved and NOT with my child or other people, following the Matthew 18 principle."*
- During registration, an appointment for a new family interview and student entrance test will be made through the school administration. This is a meeting where the goals, program, and commitment of the school will be presented.
- After the interview and testing, the admission committee will determine whether or not the student is accepted for enrollment.
- After the initial interview, parents will be notified by the school regarding a decision to accept or deny the student's enrollment within two weeks.

- If a student is accepted, a fully completed and signed application form must be returned to the School Office with all registration fees paid in full, by the date established on the acceptance notification.
- Returning families are invited to attend the Registration Night, re-enroll their students in FACTS, and schedule an appointment for registration assistance.

Parent Commitment

In accordance with the family's decision to enroll their child(ren) at SOLCA, parents are required to accept and promote the following responsibilities.

Christian Lifestyle: Parents are expected to uphold the standards of SOLCA, ensuring that both they and their children conduct themselves in a manner that brings glory to God. Parents should support the spiritual emphasis of SOLCA and model the Christian lifestyle in their home and everyday life.

Christian Conduct: Parents are expected to faithfully support the school through their prayers and positive attitude. They should share any complaints, questions, or negative comments only with the individuals involved (administration or faculty) and not around their child(ren) or other parents/families.

Academic Standards: Parents are expected to support academic standards of the school by encouraging and fostering good study habits, and by providing their child(ren) with the appropriate amount of help to complete homework and projects on time.

School Events/Attendance: Parents are required to comply with SOLCA policies and discipline. A lack of parental commitment, including but not limited to bringing children to required school performances, attending school events, participating in school fundraisers, and fulfilling financial obligations, may result in the

withdrawal of the student's privilege to attend SOLCA.

Finances: Parents are required to meet all financial obligations promptly. Failure to comply with SOLCA financial policies and obligations will result in the withdrawal of their child(ren)'s privilege to attend SOLCA. Parents must understand that SOLCA contracts with teachers and staff for the academic school year regardless of enrollment changes. The annual and tuition fees are non-refundable and due in full. SOLCA will not waive regular tuition payments or issue refunds for any reason if the school is required by state, local, or federal authorities to switch to remote (online) learning due to health matters or state-wide emergencies. The annual and tuition fees will apply for any withdrawal reasons, including expulsion, and school records will be on hold until all accounts are settled and materials returned.

Liability: Parents are required to release SOLCA staff from all liability, except in cases of negligence, while their child(ren) are under school care and responsibility. They must have their own medical and major accident insurance to cover any emergency situation during school hours at the school's rented facility and school-related events. Parents give permission to the school authorities to obtain medical treatment for their child(ren) in their absence in case of emergency. The school administration must be informed in writing of any changes in health or medication that may affect their child(ren) in school. Parents are also responsible for paying for any damage to the school's rented property caused by their child(ren).

Service Hours: Parents are required to complete 30 service hours per family to help keep SOLCA's costs to a minimum. This includes 15 hours during the 1st semester and another 15 hours during the 2nd semester. If service hours are not completed, parents must pay for the remaining hours at a rate of the state's minimum hourly wage.

Annual Auction Participation: Parents are required to participate in the annual school auction by either (1) donating items and volunteering on the auction team or (2) paying the opt-out fee of \$100 per family.

Changes: Parents are responsible for contacting the SOLCA office regarding any changes to their contact information, including phone numbers, email addresses, and physical addresses.

Non-Discrimination Policy

SOLCA admits students of any race, color, sex, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at SOLCA. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship, athletic, and other school-administered programs.

Legal Custody Policy

- A single parent, grandparent, or foster parent must provide written documentation of the legal custody of the child enrolled, i.e., a court decree or private settlement agreement.
- Only a person who has legal custody of the child has the authority to make decisions regarding the child's education.
- If divorced parents share legal custody of a child (evidenced by written documentation provided to the school of the shared custody ruling), then both parents must agree on all decisions relating to matters of education and medical care, unless emergency care is required and emergency action must be taken in the best interest of the child.
- Unless granted guardianship rights by the court, grandparents and foster parents will need approval from the child's natural parents regarding educational decisions, and

any such authority granted to the grandparents or foster parents must be communicated in writing to the school office.

- Legal custody of a child must be established by fulfilling the following requirements before enrollment is completed:
 - The legal custodian must sign the school enrollment contract.
 - Foster parents must provide the school with legal papers that show they have legal custody and authority to make educational & medical decisions for the students they are attempting to enroll.
 - If a foster parent does not have sole legal custody, then signed authorizations from both non-custodial parents and foster parents must be provided for children who are enrolled.
 - If a grandparent is merely a caregiver and does not have legal custody, the school enrollment contract must be signed by both the parents and the grandparents.
 - Enrollment will not be complete until permission to enroll the child is given in writing by the parent(s) named in the official custody papers as having authority to make decisions regarding the child's education.
 - Any restrictions in the official custody papers not in keeping with official school policy, such as restrictions on after-school pickup, free exercise of religious instruction, or standards of conduct, will negate enrollment.
 - Written directions should be contained in the official custody papers regarding which parent is to: be called in an emergency, if the child fails to attend school, or if there is a discipline problem; receive school notices; and have access to the student's records.

- Should such official directions not be contained in the custody papers, then only a document signed by both parents before a notary or in front of the school principal will suffice for needed documentation of which parent(s) holds the above-mentioned authorities.
- If a noncustodial parent is unavailable or the whereabouts are unknown, the person with legal custody must provide a signed affidavit disclosing such details and give information about plans to serve the absent parent's right to legal custody.

Tuition and Fees

The primary support for the operation of SOLCA will come from tuition payments paid by parents whose children attend the school; however, tuition payments will not support the entire school program. Therefore, the school is also considered a “donor-supported ministry.” As such, in addition to fundraising projects conducted by the school administration, parents, and students – additional financial support, in the form of financial gifts, and donations of equipment, supplies, and services will be solicited from members and friends of SOLCA, as well as from corporate partners, and the community at large.

Tuition Assistance and Payments:

The school collects tuition that could be paid in full at the beginning of the school year – annual tuition payment (if the total tuition is paid in advance by the due date in August, the family will receive a 5% tuition discount); or semester payment at the beginning of I and II semesters (50% of tuition paid before the due date in August and 50% paid by the due date in February will receive a 2% discount); or paid quarterly or by 12 equal monthly payments – set up via auto pay from a bank account (August through July). If the Annual/Semester payment is not received by the due date, the discount amount will be removed.

Monthly tuition payments are due as scheduled each month and/or on the next business day. If a student is enrolled at mid-year, tuition is prorated. Those paying directly to the school will be assessed a \$30 late fee if payment is not received by the scheduled due date and any In-Sufficient Funds (NSF) activity will result in a \$30.00 fee.

- *Registration Fees are due at registration and Annual Fees are due by August 14th.* The registration fee is non-refundable. The Annual Fee is non-refundable after the first day of school.
- *Multifamily discount:* A sibling discount is given to families with two or more students enrolled. Please check www.solchristianacademy.com for the approved discounts for the current academic school year.
- *Tuition Assistance:* Families receiving tuition assistance may not receive more than 20% total in all discounts, including tuition assistance. In rare family circumstances the School Board may approve additional 5% tuition assistance.

Withdrawal Policy

During the school year, circumstances may arise that require a family to withdraw their child(ren) from SOLCA. Parents may withdraw their child(ren) from school for any reason. Also, parents may be asked to withdraw their child: for failure to meet financial obligations; due to academic and conduct probation; or lack of partnership with the school. Withdrawal based upon a conflict with a teacher, principal, or another staff member, and/or differences in behavioral and educational philosophy that have not been resolved following the Scripture passage in Matthew 18:15-17 may also result. It is of utmost importance that the individual or school be given the opportunity to work out the problem with the student and family in a biblical manner that results in restored relationships within the school.

Procedures for Withdrawal

A withdrawal form should be completed by the parents within 2-3 business days. The withdrawal form is also available on www.solchristianacademy.com. Tuition and other unpaid fees or invoices must be paid and all materials returned before records can be released or transferred to another school. The parent, school principal, teacher, and school office must sign this withdrawal form before the process can be completed. Notification to the teacher by the parent must also be given in advance in order to adequately prepare the teacher and class for the changes.

Withdrawal Agreement

Parents agree to meet all financial obligations promptly. Failure to comply with SOLCA financial policies and obligations will forfeit the child(ren)'s privilege to attend SOLCA. SOLCA contracts with teachers and staff for the academic school year regardless of enrollment changes. The annual and tuition fees are non-refundable and due in full. Parents also understand that SOLCA, the school, will not waive the regular tuition payments or issue refunds for any reasons if the school is required, by the state, local or federal authorities, to switch to remote (hybrid/online/alternative) learning due to health matters or a force majeure event. The annual and tuition fees will apply for any withdrawal reasons, including expulsion, and school records will be on hold until all accounts are settled and materials returned. The requesting school should mail or fax the official request for records. The SOLCA School Board will review written special circumstance requests and make a decision on a case-by-case basis.



IV. SCHOOL POLICIES

Attendance

Regular attendance develops responsibility and is essential for

students to gain the maximum benefits from their education. Since SOLCA is an approved and accredited school, we are required to follow the [WA State](#) policy on attendance.

Absence

If a student stays home for any reason, the parent is required to call the school office by 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence and relate the reason for the absence. Students who have been absent must present a signed and dated note from parents on the day they return to class, or the absence will be considered unexcused. Every attempt will be made to notify parents whenever there is an unauthorized absence via FACTS parent communication that includes: a phone call, email, text messaging.

SOLCA policy provides excused absences for the following reasons:

- Serious illness or death in the family.
- Personal illness (the school requires a note from parents or a doctor's note upon return to school if the child will be or has been absent for more than two days.)
- Impassable roads or emergency situations due to inclement weather.
- Approved school activities.

A total of 10 days per year are allowed for pre-arranged absences. Absences for only a portion of the school day will be considered half-day toward a total of 10 days. A written statement from a physician may be required in situations where a pattern of excessive excused absences from school has occurred.

Prearranged absences are counted toward 10 allowed absences per academic year. If a student misses more than 10 days of school, the summer school will be assigned.

If absences occur due to severe or contagious illness, a student may be excused from summer school. A letter from a doctor about the illness is

required. The student should also have passing grades in all core subjects (GPA of 2.0) by the end of the school year.

- All absences must be communicated by parents to the office in a written or verbal form at least 24 hours prior to the absence, i.e., medical, dental, and other appointments during school hours. It is wise to schedule appointments after school hours or on Fridays. *Emergency appointments are an exception.*
- Extended absences (two or more days) must have pre-approval by the school administration, at least one week in advance. Students must be in good academic standing with a consistent attendance record before an excused absence will be approved by the principal.
- Students must receive homework prior to their pre-arranged absence and have all work completed upon return to school. It is the student's responsibility to approach their teachers for homework assignments. *A prearranged absence form must be signed by a parent and principal.*

Unapproved Absence

Secondary students, who have been truant or suspended, or otherwise absent from school improperly, may make up for the day of absence. 1.5% of the overall average grade for the grading period will be deducted from the student's final average for that grading period.

Tardiness

All students (K4/K5-12 gr.) are expected to arrive on time each morning and for each class period. Students will be considered tardy unless a legitimate written excuse from an authorized individual is submitted to the school office/teacher upon the student's arrival. *A legitimate excuse is one that entails an emergency or an unforeseeable circumstance.*

Students, who are assigned to after-lunch clean-up duty, must be in class within 5 minutes after the bell, otherwise, they are considered tardy. *Any three unexcused tardiness will be considered an unauthorized absence and will be counted toward missed school days (three tardies = one missed day).*

Consequences for Absences

A student may jeopardize high school course credit or receive an incomplete grade (K4/K5-8 gr.) if absent more than 10 days during the academic year unless a major illness or other family emergencies have resulted in an extended absence. If a student falls behind due to illness, their work should be made up within two weeks after returning back to school. *Tardies will be counted toward missed school days. Three tardies = one missed day.*

Summer school or tutoring will be assigned for students who missed more than 10 days of school within a year for any reason and/or if a student failed any core subjects. A summer fee will be applied for a missed day, which equals 3 hours of summer school make-up time (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) = \$30.00. The summer school fee will apply regardless of attendance and summer school packet required to be completed by the end of June of that school year. A student may be held back if summer work is not completed by August 15 and no later than the first day of school. At best, absences should be avoided so that the education process is not interrupted.

Excuses must be submitted in the forms of writing or communicated to the office upon return to school. Excuses may not be accepted when submitted more than one week after the absence. If a student leaves school early, except for personal illness or a serious emergency, twice within a nine-week grading period, the absence will be unexcused.

SOLCA's tardy policy stresses the importance of promptness as

valued “work ethic.” Discussion with a student about tardiness will be held in private:

If a student is tardy more than three times, the student will receive a warning by his/her teacher.

If tardiness continues, a student will be sent to the School Office and parents will be notified via email/phone.

For students with habitual tardiness, Friday School will be held from 9 AM to 12 PM. Parents are responsible for dropping off and picking up their children on time. During this period, students will work on homework under the supervision of the assigned teacher. A fee of \$30 will be charged for each Friday School session.

Excuses for Physical Education

Students who need to be excused from physical education because of illness or injury need to have a note from their parents. In order to be excused more than three times, a note from a doctor is required.

Early Dismissal

Should an early dismissal be necessary, a written note must be presented to the School Office upon arrival that day. The person picking up the child must come to the School Office to sign out the student. Upon re-entering the school the same day of an early dismissal, parents are to report with the student to the main School Office for re-entry. In the case of a divorce or separation, a student will be released to a non-custodial parent only with written permission from the legal guardian. Signed permission must be given before each occurrence.

School Closure

During bad weather, the school administration will determine school closures, late starts, and early dismissals by the decision of the

principal. If it becomes necessary to close school or have a late start, parents will be notified at the earliest possible time. Parents are responsible for notifying the office about any changes in the contact and other personal information throughout the year.

Late Pickup Policy/Fee

Parents are to pick up children promptly when classes are dismissed. Students, who are not picked up 15 minutes after dismissal, are sent to the School Office where they will be supervised until picked up. If an emergency arises or should you be late, we ask that you call and notify the School Office. One grace time is allowed per quarter. For other late times, the School Office will notify the accountant to charge a late fee, established by the school administration (minimum of \$10.00).

Chapel

Learning to worship God is an important part of Christian school education. The chapel is held once a week. Chapel attendance is required for all students. It is intended to build Christian character within the lives of each student. We encourage parents to attend chapel whenever possible. The chapel dress is required for all attendees: students and visiting parents.

Lunch

Good manners, monitored voice tone, and cleanliness are expected of each student.

Library

Our goal is to provide SOLCA students with good library resources that may be used for research or for casual reading.

Tutorial Support

SOLCA is limited in resources to help students who have learning

difficulties. Tutorial help in one or more subjects might be available (upon request by parent or teacher) after school for elementary and secondary students. *Contact the School Office for details about tutorial fees.*

Textbooks and Curriculum

All consumable textbooks belong to the student, and all non-consumable textbooks belong to the school. Lost textbooks will be replaced at the parents' expense.

Personal Property (Lost and Found)

All personal property including lunch boxes and articles of clothing should be clearly marked for identification. A “Lost & Found” box will be kept at a designated location. Unclaimed items will be disposed of at the end of each quarter.

Field Trip Guidelines

Field trips are a vital part of SOLCA. Before a field trip is taken, a notice will be sent home from the School Office. Parents will be notified of what clothing may be worn on the field trip, type of transportation, volunteers needed to chaperone the activity, and field trip overview. Parents driving on field trips must have the Insurance Verification and Background Check forms completed and submitted to the office.

The annual parental field trip permission form is submitted during registration and as needed. Additional permission might be required depending on the type of field trip (such as ACSI Student Activities, Ice-skating, or Sports events). The privilege to participate in a field trip may be revoked due to unfinished schoolwork or disciplinary problems.

Field Trip Student Responsibility

- Dress code: SOLCA public appearance should be above reproach and support our reputation as Christians.
- Stay with the group. This is a chance for students to model respect and courtesy toward leadership. It is also a safety issue.
- Obey the rules. Be respectful of the rules for group behavior such as waiting for instructions, listening, and taking turns.
- Be thankful. Students should say thank you to the field trip coordinator and the event host leader.

Field Trip Misbehavior

- A warning is given.
- A student is assigned to stay with the group leader for one hour, at least.
- Parents are notified and may be asked to pick up their child(ren).
- *Depending on the severity of misbehavior, other disciplines may apply.*

Birthday Invitations

Birthday invitations are not to be given out to the students in the classroom unless the entire class is invited. Please send birthday invitations by email/phone.

School Visits

For mutual convenience and to respect the learning environment of the school, please make an appointment for your visit and sign in at the School Office when you arrive. Please do not “pop in” the classrooms without first following this policy. *Homeschoolers are not allowed to visit their friends during school hours.*

Injury and Illness at School

In the event a student is too ill to remain at school, parents will be contacted and the student will be sent home. A student who is injured should immediately notify his teacher so proper care is administered. The incident will be recorded and communicated to the School Office. *See exceptions in the Medication section below.*

Contagious Illnesses

Please do not send your child to school if any of the following conditions are demonstrated: Unusual spots or rashes, sore throat or difficulty in swallowing/breathing, elevated temperature over 100 degrees, vomiting or diarrhea, evidence of lice, or other parasitic infestations, redness, itching, or discharge from the eye. *SOLCA has a nit-free policy for readmission after being out of school with lice.*

Students should miss school for the number of days as indicated below:

- Measles — 4 days from onset of rash,
- Chicken Pox — 6 days from the last eruption of new vesicles,
- Mumps — 9 days from onset or until subsidence of swelling,
- German Measles (Rubella) — 4 days from onset of rash,
- Respiratory Streptococcal Infections, including Fever — not less than seven days from onset if no physician is in attendance or 24 hours from start of medication.
- COVID symptoms - complete a required quarantine. *Check with the school office for additional updates.*

Medication

If a student is taking medication under a doctor's orders, the school office will, if requested by the parent, with a signed notice and furnished with an authorization form signed by the doctor, administer provided medication at specified times. The school assumes no responsibility for this service. This policy is the same for

prescription and non-prescription drugs. All medication must be brought to the school office by the parent and will be kept in the school office.

Books and Magazines

Any books or magazines brought to school by a student must be approved by the student's parents, as well as by the teacher. The School Office will uphold the policy of checking backpacks in case of any suspicious behavior. Illegal books or magazines will be confiscated, parents will be notified, and the student will serve detention based on the level of violation.

Electronic Devices

Because of the effect and liability of electronic devices, students should not bring them to school. If devices such as cell phones, iPods, iPads, games, and other electronic equipment are brought to school, they **MUST** be turned off and remain in backpacks during the school day, on school transportation, and at school-sponsored activities. Students **MAY NOT** get their devices out of their backpacks for any reason during school hours *unless directed by a teacher for class learning purposes*. They may **NOT** text, call, or video-record on school grounds, school transportation, or at any school-related activities. Any devices of this nature seen to be used by students during school hours or school activities may be confiscated by teachers, held in the School Office, and returned *only* to parents as outlined below:

- First occurrence: The incident is reported to the School Office and a warning is given to the student.
- Second occurrence: The office confiscated the electronic device. Parents are notified and allowed to pick it up after school.
- Third occurrence: The office confiscated the electronic device and gives it back to the parent for a penalty fee, established by the local office (minimum is \$10.00).

Note, the school is not responsible for lost personal electronic devices. They should be kept at home.

Telephone Use

Students must have permission from a teacher to use the school telephone. We ask parents, in case of emergency, to call the School Office, first. The School Office will assist with your request.

Care of Property

Students are expected to value and appreciate the appearance of the school building and property. Writing on desks, walls, textbooks, etc., is prohibited. Chewing gum will not be permitted on school grounds in order to protect the furniture and carpet.

- First occurrence: A student is asked to throw gum into the garbage can and warned.
- Second occurrence: A student is sent to the office; parents are notified via email/phone.
- Third occurrence: A student is required to restore, replace, or pay for the damaged property (*minimum penalty is \$10.00*).

Use of the Facilities

Students are reminded that the hallways are a place to practice courtesy. All students should remain quiet and orderly in the area where the library and staff offices are located and visitors are most often received. Students are reminded that rowdiness and roughhousing are not permitted during the school day in and/or outside the school facilities. Students arriving before school are requested to remain quiet in a designated area.

Medical Insurance

SOLCA families are required to have their own medical and major accident insurance in case of an emergency situation during school hours at the local church facility or sponsored school activities.

Surveillance

The church property where the school is located is under surveillance 24/7. If any suspicious behavior is reported, the security personnel will investigate an incident and review the camera footage. If any student(s) will be involved, parents will be notified and called to the office. Based on the level of violation, proper discipline will take place.



V. DISCIPLINE

Training includes correction as well as instruction. It is a process that begins at home, is reinforced in school, and continues through life. Various forms of discipline and correction will be administered to help maintain order and aid the student in his emotional and spiritual growth.

Standard of Conduct

Standard of conduct principles aim to produce a heart response or change in attitude that goes far beyond superficial behavior or outward actions. This is what learning the ways of God is all about; not learning just the “right thing to do” or how to “get by,” but having the nature of Christ formed in us (2 Peter 1:3, 4).

Therefore, the following are examples of principles set forth as a standard or plumb line of student behavior:

- *Faithfulness* – Covenant love, laying down your life for the brethren and the Lord; being dependable and trustworthy; patient and forgiving.
- *Honor* – The fear of the Lord and respect for those in authority; humility, submissiveness, and obedience; teachability; gratefulness.

- *Harmony* – Dwelling together in unity; friendship and sharing; peace and joy; cooperation.
- *Honesty* – Being truthful with God, yourself, and others; integrity and sincerity; transparency; fairness.
- *Purity* – Holy to the Lord; cleanliness; modesty and decency; being noble and lovely.
- *Order* – Accepting discipline and self-disciplined; being neat and orderly; organized; clear thinking.
- *Stewardship* – Accountability and responsibility; serving; diligence and perseverance; labor; bringing things to excellence; sowing and reaping.

The Purpose of Discipline

The purposes of the discipline policies:

- To assist students in developing a lifestyle that is pleasing to the Lord.
- To apply biblical principles in handling daily problems.
- To provide a consistent pattern of expectations to which students can respond positively.
- To encourage in students a positive response to authority systems so that they will be better prepared to yield their will to God's will.
- To protect and build respect for the personal rights of fellow students and adults.
- To protect and build respect for the personal property of persons and organizations.
- To encourage students to accept responsibility for their words and their actions.
- To establish standards that would support the biblical instruction that should be provided in the Christian home of which our school is an extension.
- To encourage honesty in all matters. To avoid behavior that may tempt a weaker brother.

- To protect the integrity of the individual by keeping all disciplinary actions as private as possible.

Five School Rules

- Keep all communications honoring God.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Respect and obey all supervising adults.
- Be a good steward of all things.
- Always be prepared.

Classroom Conduct

Students are to show honor to others: “May I....,” “Please,” “Thank you” - are examples of courteous phrases. Students are to address all adults with proper respect (e.g., Mr. Hetman, Mrs. Smith).

The Reward for Consistent Behavior

The school and teachers will, as seems appropriate, reward those students who demonstrate consistent obedience to all authority.

Dress Code Policy

Some of the reasons for adopting a dress code are as follows:

1. Results in a stronger discipline.
2. Standardizes unity while enhancing individualization.
3. Gives a school identification, which helps to build school spirit.

Chapel Dress

- For boys: Pants, collared button-down front or polo shirts, a necktie is optional.
- For girls: Girls may wear dresses or skirts with blouses, per dress code policy.

Dress Code at School-Sponsored Events

The principles behind the dress code include:

- Our dress should help develop Christian character and reflect our separation from the world (2 Cor. 6:14-7:1, 1 Tim. 2:9, 10, 1 Peter 3:3, 4). Is it modest, promoting moral purity? Does it overemphasize the “outer person” versus the “inner person”? A dress code can help parents teach a child to exercise the self-restraint that is needed in order to accept standards that are adopted for the welfare of the school community.
- Our dress should support our witness to the world. We are ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor. 3:2-3; 5:17; 1 Peter 2:12). Ask these questions: Does it support our Christian testimony of a changed, God-focused heart, and could it encourage others toward Him? Is it attractive and neat?
- Our dress should maintain the distinction between the sexes, recognizing that masculinity and femininity are beautiful, God-given gifts. A dress is a tool in helping our students develop a healthy sexual identity (Gen. 1:27, 1 Cor. 6:9, 10).
- Our dress should strengthen the sense of community among us (Matthew 18:7; 1 Cor. 8:9, Phil. 2:1-4).

Functional, attractive, modest, and neat clothing is our standard. Faddish, sensual, or unduly attention-getting clothing, including tight-fitting, baggy, conspicuously oversized, or clothing made of see-through material, as well as conspicuously dirty, frayed, or torn clothing is not acceptable.

Appearance at School or Sponsored Events

- Hair may not be of unnatural color or style. The length of the bangs should be above eyebrows for both boys and girls, overall length should be above ears and collars for boys.
- Make-up must be modest with no overly trendy colors or styles.

- No make-up or dress-up is allowed before/during school hours, unless for an approved school event.
- Girl's nails must be in natural colors.
- No tattoos or facial piercings are permitted. Girls may have pierced ears and wear small - non-destructive earrings.
- Sunglasses, hats, and hoods may not be worn in school.

Energy Soft Drinks and Junk Food/Fast Food

Energy drinks and junk food/fast food are not healthy for the heart and digestion system. SOLCA promotes a healthy environment for students: spiritually, academically, and physically, and so energy soft drinks and junk food/fast food is not recommended at school.

Discipline Procedures - The Three Tiers of Offenses

The three tiers of offenses are each accompanied by consequences that correspond to the degree of the particular offense. The primary goal of all discipline is to bring the offender to a place of restoration. The secondary purpose is to provide a means of keeping the community wholesome and productive.

It must be understood by the students, parents, and teachers that it is impossible to codify every possible behavior that would be an offense to the mission of SOLCA, but it is possible to draw principles from the three levels of discipline that are applicable to all situations. In areas not specifically addressed by the Parent/Student Handbook, judgment will rest upon the SOLCA principal, in accordance with the published policies.

LEVEL 1: This level of offense includes areas usually addressed by the teacher in the classroom or by teacher assistants in the cafeteria, on the playground, or on school transportation. This level of violation usually does not involve the principal.

Samples of level 1 offenses: Repeated incomplete homework,

excessive noise or running in the halls; gum chewing in the buildings; class disruptions of a minor nature; disobeying playground rules; disobeying school transportation rules, bringing cell phones or electronic devices, or other toys (without teacher approval); tardy to class; public display of affection of minor nature; dress code violations; and other offenses.

Samples of level 1 consequences: Extra assignments given by the teacher, detention, written and/or oral apologies, tallies that add up to a more serious consequence, missed recesses, or any combination of these consequences as warranted. *If a student is sent to the office the first time, he/she will receive a warning.*

LEVEL II: This level of offense goes beyond Level I in regards to severity or repetition of some lesser offense. It is at this level that the principal becomes involved and records of actions and disciplinary responses begin to be kept in the School Office. Teachers or other school staff must report Level II offenses immediately to the principal for discipline.

Samples of level II offenses: Repeated Level I offense, classroom disruption of more than a minor nature, “class removal,” disrespect of staff or teacher, harassment or bullying of another student (including racism), ongoing negative/uncooperative attitude, profanity of any kind, misuse or abuse of school property (restitution is required), deceit in any form toward staff (1st offense), slander or gossip, minor shoving or pushing incidents, cheating, not being where a student is should be.

Samples of level II consequences: In-school suspension(s), detentions, written and/or oral apologies, extra written assignments, loss of a privilege, a phone call and/or a letter will be sent home for every Level II offense committed, and a combination of consequences may be warranted.

LEVEL III: This level of offense is severe enough to warrant probation of the student, immediate suspension, and possible expulsion. Level III offenses are judged most severe either because of an ongoing pattern or attitude or because of the nature of the offense. Teachers must report Level III offenses immediately to the school principal.

Sample level III offenses: Repeated Level II offense, severe and blatant disrespect, including insubordination, use of profanity that is severe in nature (or repeated), stealing or forgery, repeated deceit of any kind, skipping classes or truancy, vandalism, any use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs (on or off school grounds), false alarms being called in or set off, fighting, any possession of weapons, sexual immorality on or off-campus, any criminal offense not including traffic violations, any threatening remarks made to others.

Samples of level III consequences: Meeting required between the parent and school principal, the student is immediately placed on probation (if allowed to stay), out-of-school suspension, multiple in-school suspension days, written and/or oral apologies, suspension from extracurricular activities, required professional counseling, permanent removal from a class with a failing grade (if behavior took place in the classroom) or any combination of consequences may be warranted. Any Level III offense may result in immediate expulsion, even without a previous record.

Detention Policy

The detention is assigned for different violations at the office level: tardy, absence, language usage, missed homework, etc.

- The student is warned.
- Parents are notified and the incident is recorded in FACTS.
- Parents are notified and the student is to serve 30 min. after school detention. The student is supervised by the assigned school personnel.

The time and date for detention can be further determined by the principal.

Conduct Probation

Under certain circumstances, a student in grades K4/K5-12 may be placed on probation. Probation gives the student an opportunity to display true repentance for offenses. If he/she does not improve to a satisfactory level during the time specified, the student might be expelled or asked to withdraw.

Reasons for probation:

- Continued deliberate disobedience.
- A rebellious spirit that is unchanged following counsel.
- Continued bad influence on other students.
- Insufficient academic progress (academic probation).
- A serious breach of conduct inside or outside the school which has an adverse effect upon the testimony of the school.

Length of Probation:

- Usually, one school quarter, assigned by the principal.

Consequences of Probation:

- The probationary student will not be permitted to engage in or be a part of, the ongoing curricular activities of the school for a period of time to be determined by the principal.
- The probationary students are not denied the privilege of attending classes, but they may be denied participation in school social functions and cannot assume any leadership role while on probation.
- A probationary student will be responsible for their behavior on a daily basis. He/she will be subject to frequent evaluations and corrective criteria.

Suspension

SOLCA Administration may issue suspensions of up to three days as a consequence of misconduct, which is either flagrant or repeated. All suspensions result in an unexcused absence for the day missed.

Two types of suspensions are issued:

- In-school suspension – this is the most commonly assigned suspension and is served at school. The student is isolated for the entire day and assigned work by SOLCA Administration.
- Home suspension – the student is detained and supervised at home by a parent and assigned work. *A student may not participate in any school-sponsored activities during suspension.*

Cheating Policy

Cheating is defined as copying homework, handing in another's work, plagiarism in research papers and compositions, and unauthorized assistance on tests or quizzes. Cheating involves taking information from another source and presenting it as your own information. Thus, it involves both the components of stealing and lying. If it is determined that a student has indeed cheated, the following actions will be taken:

- *First offense:*
 - Meeting with a teacher. A teacher might assign an alternate assignment.
 - A teacher will contact parents via email/phone explaining specifics of the incident.
- *Second offense:*
 - Meeting with a teacher and 0% on the assignment.
 - The student is sent to the school office. The office informs parents via email/phone.
- *Third offense:*
 - A 0% on assignment and up to 25% off a total grade for the current quarter.

- The student is sent to the school office. Parents are called to the office.

Inappropriate Affection

SOLCA is an educational ministry, with an emphasis on the development of godly character. Scriptural precepts warn us against the lust of the flesh. "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh to fulfill its lusts" (Romans 13:14). We would be out of God's will if we permitted or overlooked inappropriate displays of affections. For this reason, there will be absolutely no hand-holding or other displays of affection, either in school or at school events.

Non-Engagement Policy

Because of the distinct philosophy and goals of this school, an engaged high school student may not be enrolled.

Search Policy

SOLCA reserves the right to search a student's personal belongings if the school suspects the student has illegal or unauthorized items. The student may be searched without the permission of the student's parents. Registration of the student in school constitutes parental permission for such searches. The following items may be searched:

- Automobiles.
- Backpacks, purses, pockets, etc.
- Lockers, desks, etc.

Classrooms and Hallways

It is the goal of SOLCA to maintain the classroom in such a way that it has a desirable appearance upon entering. We feel that structure and cleanliness is an important aspect of our Christian life and is also conducive to a learning atmosphere.

- Sports equipment must be stored appropriately in designated areas.
- The student's desk must remain in an orderly fashion.
- Desktops and areas around the students' desks need to be clear of pencils, papers, and books at the end of each day.
- Each student should have a named and designated area for his/her coat, boots, and lunch box. This area is then their responsibility to keep straightened.
- Hallways to be kept clear of clutter: tables, books, papers, and sports equipment.
- Any dues or penalties owed to SOLCA must be paid before the final report card is released.

Playground Policy

No students are allowed to be on the playground without supervision.

Children must use the playground equipment in a proper and safe manner.

- No tackle football. Only softballs are allowed, no baseballs.
- Students are required to keep the playground clean and picked up by using acceptable disposal containers.
- Children must stay within the playground boundaries and must obtain a teacher's assistance in retrieving a ball that rolls across the street. *P.E. equipment may not be used on the playground.*

School Grass Field Policy

- No students are allowed to play on the grass field without supervision.
- No-tag games are allowed.
- Soccer is allowed only with students one year apart (one grade up or down).
- Students are required to keep the grass field clean and picked up by using acceptable disposal containers.

- Students must stay within the grass field boundaries and must obtain a teacher's assistance in retrieving a ball that rolls across the street. *P.E. equipment may not be used on the playground.*

Playground/Grass Field Misbehavior

- A conference with a teacher. One recess time privilege is lost.
- The student is sent to the office, and a warning is given.
- The student is sent to the office. Parents are notified via email/phone. Students lose recess privileges for a week.
- If misbehavior continues, parents are called to the office.

Bus Rules

- Students must follow all established school bus/van rules:
- Students must be on time at the designated bus stops. If privilege is abused, use of bussing will be revoked.
- Students must not stand in the traffic lanes while waiting for the school bus/van.
- Students must await the signal from the driver to cross a road or highway. The crossing must be made approximately 10 feet in front of the bus and in full view of the driver.
- Students desiring to leave the bus at other than their designated bus stop must present to the driver written permission from their parents/guardian.
- Animals are not allowed on the bus.
- Students should always get permission from the school office ahead of time when a friend is invited and going home with the student or when the ride is needed back to school in the morning.

When on a School Bus/Van

- Obey all instructions of the bus/van driver.
- The bus/van driver may assign seats to students.

- Students must remain seated at all times.
- Backpacks should be under the seat.
- Use a soft voice. No yelling!
- Keep hands and head inside the bus.
- Honor God with your words. No profanity!
- Keep the bus clean. Do not destroy property!
- Weapons/dangerous items and violence are prohibited.
- For your own safety, do not distract the driver through misbehavior.

Misbehavior on a School Bus/Van

- The first time a written notice is sent home to report bus misconduct.
- Upon the second notice, parents will be notified immediately, a student will be suspended for one day.
- On the third notice, a student will be suspended for a week.
- If misbehavior continues, the student will lose the bus riding privileges until the end of the school quarter.

The procedures outlined above may be altered to handle serious infractions, which require immediate suspension or expulsion from school.

Guidelines for Parking Lot

Always drive slowly in the parking lot (5 mph)! When picking up or dropping off your child(ren), please park in a designated parking slot. For your child's safety, do not release your child from the middle of the parking lot or drive up and have them come to your car.

Driving to School for High School Students

- HS students who drive to school must observe the following regulations:
- Only licensed drivers are permitted to drive cars to school.
- Cars may be parked in the designated area for student

parking.

- Students are not allowed to drive their cars in the parking lot during school hours.
- Students are not allowed to leave the school campus during school hours unless a pre-arranged notice or call by the parents.
- No student may transport other students to or from school without written permission from the passenger's parents.
- Any immature or unlawful practices, such as squealing of tires, speeding, or reckless driving, are not permitted. A fine will be applied to a family account if such damage occurs.
- No student is to transport other students to school-sponsored activities unless written permission is given by a parent and is on file in the office and approved by the principal.
- *The privilege to drive to school may be revoked by the principal if these regulations are not observed.*

Transportation (carpooling)

The school has no official responsibility for transporting to and from school. For those who wish to help with carpooling, please contact the school office for names of families in your area. The school will not arrange transportation for you; this is the responsibility of the parents.

The same rules apply to any school vehicle transporting students.

Violence Prevention Policy

SOLCA is dedicated to providing a safe environment for every student enrolled. To do so, the following standards are in place: Any act or expression of physical intent against a teacher or any other staff member is cause for immediate suspension or expulsion. Fighting between students while in the classroom or school premises will result in immediate suspension. Statements made by a student claiming or boasting of a weapon at

school or school event will be dealt with in the same manner as a "threat" below.

I. Students who possess a weapon or who carry, exhibit, display, draw, or threaten any of these items apparently capable of producing bodily harm in a manner which, under the circumstances, manifests an intent to intimidate another or warrant alarm for the safety of others shall be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion of one year.

II. "Possession" includes, but is not limited to, having a weapon on school property or at a school-sponsored event located:
In a space assigned to a student such as a locker or desk
On the student's person or property (such as on the student's body, in his/her clothes, purse, backpack, gym bag, or vehicle)
Under the student's control or accessible or available, such as hidden by the student.

A "Threat" includes, but is not limited to:

- A statement of personal bodily harm with a weapon
- A statement indicating friends or acquaintances with weapons who will commit bodily harm
- A statement of possessing a weapon at school or a school function.

A "Weapon" includes, but is not limited to:

- A firearm, which is a weapon or device from which a projectile may be fired by an explosive; or an air gun, which includes any air pistol or air rifle, designed to propel a BB, pellet, or other
- Projectile by discharge of compressed air, carbon dioxide or other gas, or any items which appear to be realistic firearms or air guns
- A slingshot, which is a piece of metal, or a stone fastened to a

short strap, chain or thong, used as a weapon

- A slingshot, which is a forked piece of wood, metal plastic or similar substance having an elastic band fastened to the prongs for shooting small stones and pebbles
- A sand club, chains or metal knuckles
- A device is commonly known as "throwing stars," multi-pointed objects designed to embed upon impact
- Any knife which is a cutting or stabbing instrument with a sharp blade set in a handle
- A dirk, which is a type of dagger
- Any device is commonly known as "nun-chu-ka" sticks consisting of two or more lengths of wood, metal, plastic or similar substance connected with wire, rope or other means
- A stun-gun
- Any explosive device including fireworks.

III. Any faculty member, staff member, or principal with knowledge of "possession," "threat," or "use of weapons" as described above shall immediately report to the building principal/director/designee, who shall:

- Submit a report to the appropriate jurisdictional police authority and
- Remove the involved student(s) from school pending full investigation by school and law enforcement authorities.

Any student at SOLCA violating this policy will be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement agency and be immediately expelled from the school without exception.

Illegal Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco Policy

SOLCA has a zero-tolerance policy in relation to the student's use or possession of illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products. Our school reserves the right, according to our "Student Search Policy", to search students if they are suspected of possessing illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products. The School Office may give a drug test

for a suspected student, parents will be notified. In some circumstances, a student can be asked to take a drug test at the Drug Test Office. If this policy is violated, a student will be immediately expelled from school.

Sexual Conduct Policy

SOLCA holds a zero-tolerance position with regard to sexual immorality. Students will be immediately expelled with absolutely no exceptions to this policy if sexual immorality is proven as fact. God has given mankind a clear directive as to the moral standards that we should keep. He has been especially clear that fornication activities are an abomination – sinful perversions of God's gift of sex (See 1 Corinthians 5:1, 6:9, 18; Ephesians 5:3; Genesis 19:5-7, 13; Leviticus 18:22, 20:13). The Bible is our rule of faith and practice concerning these perversions.



VI. GRADING STANDARDS

Placement Testing

Initial placement of students in grades K-12 will be based, in part, on data obtained from the administration of Kindergarten and WRAT4 entrance tests. The test will be administered in accordance with the procedures outlined in the WRAT4 administration book.

Standardized Testing

The testing program includes the administration of a standardized achievement test battery and is given to all students (K-12) on an annual basis (Iowa for K-11, PSAT for 10-11, SAT for 11-12 grades). Additionally, the testing program may include, but not be limited to, vocational interest, college entrance, criterion-referenced in various skill areas, and tests of scholastic knowledge. The kind of tests

administered will vary depending on the grade level of the student.

Classification of Students

K4/K5 grades	Primary
1-5 grades	Elementary
6-8 grades	Middle School
9-12 grades	High School

Before a student can advance to a higher grade, he/she must pass all five major subjects (English, Math, Social Studies, Science, and Bible) or make them up independently.

Carnegie Unit of Credit

One unit of credit represents 150 hours of instruction under the direction of a teacher per core class and 120 for electives. This unit (credit) is given to a student who successfully completes a class that meets four fifty-minute classes a week for thirty-six weeks or eighteen weeks for elective courses.

Guidance and Counseling

Services are available for students who request assistance or are referred for school counseling and guidance. Assistance is available in the areas of academic planning, vocational and career interest, and student/family problems. *In the rendering of personal counsel to a student and/or parent(s), SOLCA does not represent such services as any substitute for licensed professional counseling.*

In general, the following problems can be handled:

- Scheduling, including program changes.
- Graduation requirements.
- Vocational guidance and information.
- College entrance requirements and ACT, SAT I or II testing.

Graduation Requirements

The minimum credit requirements for a High School student to

- graduate are 24 credits, if attended all four years at SOLCA. College preparatory students should also meet the following requirements:
- * Take Algebra I & II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus
 - * Take Chemistry, Physics, Biology I & II, AP Biology
 - * Take Foreign Language
 - * Have at least a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 Scale
 - * Take a college entrance examination (ACT or SAT)

Credits Requirements for Diploma

SOLCA will require the following criteria to be matched or exceeded for a student to receive a diploma if attended all four years at SOLCA

Bible* **Up to: 4 (4yrs)**

English: **4 (4yrs)**

- Grammar & Vocabulary
- Writing & American Literature
- Composition & World Literature
- British Literature

Mathematics: **3 (3yrs)**

- Algebra I & II, Geometry
- Trigonometry, Calculus

Social Studies: **3 (3yrs)**

- WA ST History & Geography
- US History, World History
- Government & Economics

Science/Lab: **3 (3yrs)**

- Basic Science, Biology I & II
- Chemistry, Physics

Technical Education **1 (1yr)**

Fine Arts **1 (1yr)**

Physical Education **2 (2yrs)**

World Language **2 (2yrs)**

Personalized Pathway **2 (2yrs)**

Electives **2 (2yr)**

Total Credits **24**

**This program is designed to meet the needs of a student who has attended SOLCA high school for four years.*

Grading and Report Cards

SOLCA requires parents to attend Parent/Teacher conferences that are held two times per year (during the 1st and after 3rd quarters). Students in grades K4/K5 through 12 will be evaluated concerning their academic and behavioral progress two times per quarter: midterm and end-of-the-quarter progress. Progress reports are issued at the end of each quarter. Report cards for K4/K5 – 8 grades and transcripts for 9-12 grades are issued at the end of 1st and 2nd semesters.

Grading Weight

Letter grades for high school students (9-12) shall be reported using this formula: 34% daily work (graded daily assignments, i.e. homework, book reports, spelling tests, quizzes, compositions, etc.), 33% unit exams (major exams covering a unit of study), 33% final comprehensive exams (covering the completed quarter). Primary, elementary, and middle school students' grades are reported simply using a 50/50 formula: 50% for daily work; 50% for tests and major projects.

Academic Awards

Students who earn a 3.33 to 3.69-grade point average each quarter in 4-12 grades will be placed on the Honor Roll. Students earning a 3.70 to 4.00-grade point average in 4-12 grades each quarter will earn recognition on the Scholar's List. These individuals will receive specific awards for their achievements.

SOLCA students are encouraged to do their best; this is why teachers nominate one student per class/per month for the most improved student award "Student of the Month."

Grading SAMPLE SCHOOL

95% -100% = A

92% -94% = A-

89% -91% = B+

85% -88% = B

82% -84% = B-

79% -81% = C+

75% -78% = C

72% -74% = C-

69% -71% = D+

65% -68% = D

62% -64% = D-

Below 62% = F

P = Passing

I = Incomplete

For computing GPA, the following numerical values are used:

A = 4.0

B- = 2.7

D+ = 1.3

A- = 3.7

C+ = 2.3

D = 1.0

B+ = 3.3

C = 2.0

D- = .7

B = 3.0

C- = 1.7

F = 0

Academic Evaluation

It is our purpose at SOLCA to challenge each student to strive for his full potential academically in the area of learning. Each new student enters school with one quarter for a grace period. After the grace period, any student in grades 4-12 who earns a grade point average below 2.00 on a quarterly basis in all academic subjects (Bible, Mathematics, Language Arts, History, and Science) will be subject to academic probation.

This standing involves the following criteria:

- A notice is sent home notifying the parents of their child's probationary standing.
- Administration meets with each student whose GPA is below 2.00 after the mid-quarter reports. The student will be subject to one or all of the following correctional actions:
 - Placed on academic probation,
 - Required study schedule signed daily by a parent,

- Restriction of athletic activities,
- Increase in study time and/or decrease in activity time,
- A weekly status report signed by the teacher.

The student must recover academically, raising GPA back to 2.00 or above by the end of the quarter or the student may be subject to withdrawal. A decision will then be made to retain the student or request that the parents withdraw the student. By special permission of the principal, a student who has been assessed to have insufficient academic skill or ability, but maintains high integrity and academic hunger, may be readmitted semester by semester.

If a student does not make an effort toward improvement, it is a misuse of the school's resources, parent's money, and student's time.

Homework Policy

Homework is an integral part of the school program. Homework is generally assigned so youngsters can complete regular classroom assignments or work on basic skills. Other reasons for homework may be to enable a student to make up for work missed during absences, to develop study skills, and to encourage creativity. The amount of homework assigned to a student is typically:

- 30-60 minutes per day for K4/K5 - 3 grades,
- 90 minutes per day in grades 4 - 6,
- 120 minutes per day in grades 7 - 8,
- 180 minutes per day in grades 9-12.

A student may spend more time on homework due to educational gaps or study skills. Parents are encouraged to monitor their student's homework time, especially in elementary grades.

Homework Policy for K4-5 Grade Students

Each student is required to complete his/her homework on time. Failure to complete homework on time will result in one or all of the following:

- *First offense:* A student receives a warning. The student will be held during recess to complete his/her assignment or at the discretion of the teacher.
- *Second offense:* A student will be held during recess or after school to complete his/her assignment. The student's grade will be lowered one letter grade. Parents will be notified.
- *Third offense:* A student will be held during recess or after school to complete his/her assignment. The student's grade will be lowered to two letter grades. Parents will be notified.

If parents do not cooperate with a teacher, the principal will be involved.

Homework Policy for 6-12 Grade Students

- All assignments are to be turned in on the due date in the beginning of each class or at the discretion of the teacher.
- If assignments are not turned in by the assigned date and time, the student will have one day to turn the work in.
- If the late assignment is still not turned in on the second day, the student will receive 10% off on the late work.
- 50% is given to all assignments that are turned on the third day after the due date. Parents will be notified of the delinquent homework problem.
- 25% is given to all assignments that are turned on the fourth day after the due date. If the work is not turned in on Thursday morning, the students received a 0 for the assignment. Parents will be notified of the delinquent homework problem.

Parents are encouraged to assist their child(ren) when necessary. Collaboration and group work is permissible, yet students need to present their own work. Disciplinary action will occur if homework cheating is discovered among students.

Special Projects

Book reports, compositions, special research assignments, and projects are some of the activities useful in extending learning beyond the basic study of the text and classroom discussion.

Retention Policy

Retaining students at a given grade level is a procedure practiced when students are functioning at a level significantly below grade-level expectations. Criteria used to determine whether or not a student should be retained are: students must pass English and Math in order to be promoted to the next grade. Any student in grades one through eight who earn two “F’s” cumulatively for the year will be retained. The principal will notify parents if end-of-the-year retention is being considered.

Note, after the second quarter parents will be notified about possible retention for their child. The conference will be scheduled, student's work and tests will be presented to parents, and a probationary contract signed. If no improvements are shown during 3rd and 4th quarters, a student will need to repeat a grade, unless he/she will make up failed classes during the summer.

P.E. Policies and Procedures

The physical education program is committed to providing the necessary fitness activities, physical skills, social skills, and knowledge for student’s success in daily life. The desired outcome of health and fitness is knowledge for student success in daily life. Students are required to dress appropriately for PE classes.

Non-suit P.E. Discipline Procedures

Non-suits will not participate in the daily activity, but must stay with the class. The first non-suit is grace and does not count against the grade. Each additional nonsuit results in a grade deduction.

- *First offense: Grace.*

- *Second offense:* 0% in the grade book for that period, parents are notified.
- *Third offense:* 0% in the grade book for that period, the student is sent to the office, and parents are notified.

Continuous violations will require a conference with parents.



VII. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Objectives

Offer students an opportunity to glorify God in the use of their gifts, knowledge, and understanding beyond the classroom.

- Expand students' ability in expressing themselves in all areas of communication and stage performance.
- Motivate students toward further study in pursuit of knowledge and understanding.
- Encourage students to develop the ability to remain calm under the pressure of competition and maintain clear thinking and good recall.
- Provide opportunities for fellowship with other students.

Student Council

The purpose of the student council is to establish a Christ-centered organization that serves to develop Christian character in the student body by influencing and maintaining high spiritual standards and acts as a mediator between the student body, the administration, and the faculty. The council shall also promote social activities. The student council shall consist of the ASB officers and class representatives.

Requirements*:

- Must be a returning SOLCA student

- Maintain a satisfactory academic progress
- Maintain exemplarily behavioral standing

**Failure to meet requirements will forfeit Student Council position and participation.*

Athletic Eligibility

The participation of students in athletics is an important part of SOLCA, yet we believe that academic achievement is more important than participation in after-school activities. We desire that all of our students realize that academics are a priority over athletics. Athletes are responsible for maintaining a GPA. at or above 2.0 (C or 75 %) in each class and must have satisfactory stewardship behavior. If a student-athlete fails to maintain this standard; he or she will be in jeopardy of participating. The key factors will include the following: homework completion, effort in class, teacher, and principal's input.

Athletic Games

Participation in Athletic games is based on P.E. teacher recommendations. On a regular basis, students are required to attend 80% of all scheduled games. Students who followed all established sports guidelines will receive .25 credit at the end of school year.

Competitions

The purpose of SOLCA competitions is to provide such activities that enhance students with God-given abilities, gifts, and talents. So the school could provide after-school club activities in order to prepare students for the school and ACSI competitions: Bible, Spelling Bee, English, Speech, Math, Science, etc.



VIII. PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are held for all students at least two times a year. Other conferences may be arranged by appointment with a child's teacher when parents consider it beneficial.

Parent Committee

The purpose of the Parent Committee is to serve the total school environment by sponsoring student activities, fundraisers, and financial assistance. Meetings are held monthly.

Newsletter

SOLCA publishes weekly newsletters that are sent via email. It is the parent's responsibility to read newsletters and be aware of all school activities, events, changes in the calendar, etc, and respond promptly with any questions.

Complaint Procedures

If you disagree with a situation in the classroom, see your child's teacher first. If satisfaction is not obtained, then the principal should be contacted. If no resolution is achieved, then contact the school principal or call the SOLCA office.



IX. EMERGENCY POLICIES

General Emergencies

Due to the increasing threat of violence targeted at schools, we have formulated a lockdown procedure to minimize the potential harm that could befall SOLCA students and staff. In the event that a

lockdown should occur, appropriate communication will be sent home the same day to parents explaining the event and reassuring them of their child's safety. Parents coming to pick up students at the end of the day will be signaled that a lockdown occurred by the display of red flags in the parking lot. Students will remain in their classrooms for parents to come in and escort students to their vehicles.

Fire Emergency

1. Expect drills at least four times per year.
2. Sound the fire alarm.
3. Follow evacuation procedures practiced in drills.
4. Do not open hot doors. Check the top of the door for heat before opening it.
5. Do not break windows.

Students do the following:

1. Stop all activity at the sound of the alarm.
2. Line up immediately by the exit door.
3. The first person to a door holds it open for the rest then follows from the back of the line.
4. Students walk silently, in single file.
5. Leader of the line walks to the edge of the grounds.
6. Students stand quietly while the teacher calls roll.

Teachers do the following:

1. Check restrooms and privilege areas for stragglers.
2. Take the emergency backpack.
3. Lead students out of the building.
4. Call roll to verify every student is present.
5. Bring students back inside following the all-clear signal.

Once the building is secure, the school principal will instruct teachers and students that it is safe to re-enter the building. Signal “all clear” will be announced by the office staff.

School Lockdown

Modified Lockdowns/Lockdowns prevent unwanted intruders from entering the building. A lockdown protects the staff and students from external or internal threats. During a lockdown, no persons will be allowed to enter or leave the building. In the event a lockdown goes beyond the normal school day, parents will be notified of pick-up procedures via phone calls or emails.

In the event of a modified lockdown, teachers will:

1. Check the hallway for any nearby students and take them to the class.
2. Close and lock classrooms and windows, pull shades, and cover windows in doors.
3. Inform the designated school official about students present in their class.
4. Listen to announcements (“lockdown with warning” vs. “lockdown with intruder”)
5. Resume activities/classes with caution.

No student or staff member will be allowed to leave the school building until the modified lockdown is lifted.

In the event of a lockdown, teachers will:

1. Check the hallway for any nearby students and take them to the class.
2. Close and lock classrooms and windows, pull shades, and cover windows in doors.
3. Keep students away from the windows and doors. Turn off the lights.
4. Inform the designated school official about students present in their class.
5. Listen to announcements (“lockdown with warning” vs. “lockdown with intruder”)
6. If gunshots or explosions are heard students will be instructed to lie on the floor.

7. Resume activities/classes only after the signal “all clear.”

No student or staff member will be allowed to leave the school building until the lockdown is lifted.

Earthquake

1. Instruct students to “Duck and Cover”.
2. Get immediately under a desk or table.
3. Face away from windows.
4. Squat on knees close to the ground.
5. Cover neck and sides of head with one hand behind the neck, hold firmly to a desk or table leg with the other hand.
6. Close your eyes tightly.
7. If in a large room or where a desk or table is not available, stand in a doorway or corner facing away from the windows.
8. If in an interior stairway, move to the wall and take the personal protective position (squat on knees close to ground, cover neck and sides of head with one hand behind the neck.)
9. Remain calm and reassuring.

Evacuation Plan

In an emergency, it may be necessary to evacuate students from the school or campus. In the event the building is deemed dangerous, students will be evacuated to an on-campus or off-campus location depending on severity. Examples of reasons for building evacuation are earthquake, fire, water damage etc. Other examples of campus evacuation are environmental pollution or natural disaster, etc. in the event of a campus evacuation the location to transport students will be determined by the principal. Parents will be notified by the office personnel by phone, email and/or school website.

Procedures for Student/Parent Reunification

1. Parents report to the designated request gate. Parents will need to fill out a release form and show a picture ID.
2. A runner will escort the requested student to the pickup area.

3. After completing the release form, the parent will be instructed to go to the pickup area. The parent will then fill out a pickup form indicating they picked up their child.

These procedures are important for safety and security. During an evacuation, the main doors will be locked. Your patience and support will be required as we work to assist you in retrieving your child.

Binding Agreement

The guidelines in this handbook are meant to establish expectations and consistency for both families and SOLCA administration. By enrolling at SOLCA, families agree to abide by these guidelines. All communication between SOLCA faculty/staff and students/families should at all times be both professional and respectful in nature.

Families should faithfully support the school through prayers and a positive attitude.

Complaints or concerns should be shared through the proper channels: your child's teacher, the principal, the school board.

If you have concerns or complaints during your experience with SOLCA, please submit them to our administration at www.solchristianacademy.com